

#13

IN THE CLAIMSAdd new claim 26 as follows:

26. (New) A method for detecting *Salmonella* using a *Salmonella* detection kit, the method requiring at least one primer and/or fluorescent probe contained in the kit, said method comprising the steps:

(a) performing PCR on DNA isolated from a sample to be analyzed for the presence of *Salmonella ssp.*, wherein the kit's PCR primers are according to SEQ ID NO: 15 and 17, and the kit's at least one fluorescent probe is according to SEQ ID NO: 16;

(b) irradiating the PCR reaction or portion thereof, with a wavelength of light capable of exciting the fluorescent probe, and

(c) quantifying the emitted light from the fluorescent probe, wherein said emitted light is indicative of the presence of *Salmonella ssp.*,

27. (New) The method of claim 26, wherein the detection kit comprises the following:

- a) a forward primer of SEQ ID NO 15,
- b) a probe of SEQ ID NO 16,
- c) a reverse primer of SEQ ID NO 17,
- d) optionally a spacer between forward primer and probe,
- e) optionally a spacer between probe and reverse primer;

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f) optionally a spacer upstream from the forward primer,  
g) optionally a spacer downstream from the reverse primer,  
wherein the nucleotide sequences according to SEQ ID NOS: 15-17 may be substituted by a nucleotide sequence that is complementary to it, or that hybridizes to it, or has at least 70% identity with it.

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#### CONDITIONAL PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

If any extension of time for this response is required, Applicants request that this be considered a petition therefore. Please charge the required fee to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

#### ADDITIONAL FEES

Please charge any further insufficiency of fees, or credit any excess to Deposit Account No. 14-1263.

#### REMARKS

Claims 12-25 have been subjected to a 14-way restriction based on an alleged absence of a single general inventive concept under PCT Rule 13.1.

#### ELECTION WITH TRAVERSE

In response to the restriction requirement Applicants elect, with traverse

GROUP III, recited in claim 12 and drawn to kits comprising probes and primers for *Salmonella*.